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INTENSE PULSED LIGHT (IPL)

What does it do?

It treats age spots, broken capillaries, sun damage, mottled pigmentation, redness from rosacea, photoaging, and skin texture changes.

How does it work?

The increased amounts of red and brown pigment found in these skin conditions are targets for the light. These spots therefore absorb more of the light, converting it into heat, which then fragments these pigment deposits, making them easily and naturally cleared by the body.

How many treatments are needed for maximal results?

Four to six treatments at three-week intervals yield the best results

How long does it take to see results?

Some patients see results immediately. Brown spots or superficial vessels may develop a dusky gray or brown color immediately after treatment. These spots dry up and peel off over days following the treatment. Most patients will notice a gradual improvement over 4-6 treatments.

How long do results last?

Effects of this treatment vary among individuals, depending upon the skin condition being treated and the patient's compliance with a skin care regimen and protection against the sun.

Is it painful?

Patients describe a mild sensation of a warm spark or quick pressure on the skin, similar to a rubber band snapping against the skin.

Is there any downtime afterwards?

There is no downtime. The area treated may exhibit redness immediately after the procedure. Rarely there is crusting or brown spots that fade over several days. Any pigment irregularities that remain after treatment can be improved with the next treatment. For best results, excessive sun exposure should be avoided for 4 weeks before and after treatment.

Who cannot have this procedure?

Patients with dark complexions or tanned skin, and patients who are pregnant